



***PRESENTATION TO  
VILLAGE POWER  
CONFERENCE***

***2000***

***Washington DC***

***5 December 2000***

***Stimulating Viable Demand  
and Sustainable Supply  
Patterns in Rural  
Communities -***

***The Role of Community-  
Based Delivery Vehicles***



# ***Introduction***

- ***Reduction of poverty is central thrust to SA's growth and economic development strategy***
  - Infrastructure delivery (including Energy)
  - Integrated approach
  - Balance between supply & demand patterns
  - Stimulation of viable demand
  - Sustainable development outcomes



# ***Poverty and Inequality***

- ***Poverty and inequality an inherited legacy***
  - 25% of rural population on less and \$100 per month
  - A further 38% of rural population on \$150 per month
  - These two categories make up 63% of population
  - Poverty and limited economic growth are key development issues



# ***The Initial Development Approach***

- ***Past six years of democracy have been foundational in new SA landscape***
  - Legislation, policy and programme reforms in all sectors of govt.
  - Constitution, Bill of Rights
  - Macro economic strategy (GEAR)
  - RDP (1995 - Rural Electrification Strategy)



## ***Energy in Context of Poverty***

- ***The future prosperity of SA hinges on universal access to energy***
  - Progress between 1993 & 1997
  - 2,75m households still without power
  - Present outlook on extending grid expensive
  - Alternatives needed to achieve sustainable enviro-friendly universal access
  - Energy only one component of development whole



# ***Integrated Sustainable Rural Development***

- ***The SA Govt. has launched the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Framework***
  - Overarching framework for role players
  - Target spatial poverty pockets
  - Strategic intent is to transform rural SA into viable and socially stable environment
  - Women, Youth, Disabled are special focus groups





## ***Integrated Sustainable Rural Development (2)***

- ***Focus areas on the implementation of the ISRDS are:***
  - Infrastructure Delivery
  - Economic Development
  - Social Cohesion



## ***Integrated Sustainable Rural Development (3)***

- ***ISRDS outcomes will be judged successful having achieved:***
  - Improved service provision
  - Enhanced opportunities for income generation and local economic development
  - Improved physical infrastructure, social cohesion and physical safety
  - Active representation in local political processes
  - Active provision for the vulnerable



## ***Integrated Sustainable Rural Development (4)***

- ***ISRDS will adopt a mode of delivery that puts beneficiary communities at centre***
  - Rural development vs Poverty Alleviation
  - Rural people as **own agents** of development e.g. sweat equity & strong ownership element
  - Sustainability through effective participation
  - Local govt. revenue & partnerships
  - Resource input needs strong facilitation
  - Social cohesion is not automatic characteristic



# ***Integrated Rural Economic Development***

- ***A strategy on rural development needs to understand patterns of rural growth***
  - Link source of growth to greater economy
  - Natural resources need beneficiation
  - Build local entrepreneurial capacity at all stages



## ***Creating viable demand through local delivery capacity***

- ***Community-based delivery vehicles structured as partnerships between Govt, NGOs & Communities do more***
  - Energy as catalyst for rural development links to community entrepreneurial capacity
  - SA already rich in locally-based delivery capacity  
*(historical work of NGOs and Donors)*
  - Building local entrepreneurial capacity guarantees sustainability in the long term



## ***Conclusion***

- ***Delivering sustainable development outcomes in rural infrastructure can be achieved***
  - Rural energy supply can serve as catalyst for rural development
  - Rural energy can be sustained through link to institutional capacity at community level
  - Locally brokered partnerships key as delivery vehicles for social and economic development



***Thank you...***

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